GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2783
ANSWERED ON:20.03.2002
ABROGATION OF INDUS WATERS TREATY
SRINIVASULU KALAVA

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of attacks by Pakistani terrorists on Jammu and Kashmir Assembly and Indian Parliament, the Government are considering the option of abrogating Indus waters treaty with Pakistan;

(b) if so, the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard;

(c) whether all ramifications in this regard have considered; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH)

(a)-(d) Following the December 13 attack on the Parliament, Government took several measures considered necessary and effective to highlight the need for Pakistan to end support to cross-border terrorism and infiltration. These included the decision to recall the Indian High Commissioner from Islamabad; terminate the services of Samjhauta Express and the Delhi-Lahore bus service with effect from 1st January, 2002; reduce the strength of the respective High Commissions in the two countries by 50%; restrict the movement of those officials and family members who stayed back to the municipal limits of Delhi and suspension of all overflight facilities available to Pakistan or Pakistan Airlines with effect from 1st January, 2002. India has also handed over to Pakistan a list of 20 fugitives from law with the request that they be apprehended and handed over to India.

Government remains firmly committed to countering the threat of cross border terrorism and to preserving India`s security.